App. No. 10/073,670
Amendment Dated: June 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 7, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original)   A computer-implemented method for identifying metadata about a resource identified by a first identifier, the method comprising:

issuing a request to get a rendition of the resource identified by the first identifier;

parsing a response document received in response to the issued request; and

if the response document includes an indication that the metadata exists within a resource identified by a second identifier, retrieving the metadata from the other resource identified by the second identifier.

2. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises and XML processing instruction.

3. (currently amended)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier comprise comprises a Universal Resource Identifier.

4. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

5. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises the second identifier.

6. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

7. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises attribute identifying an expected response type of text/xml.

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8. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

9. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises the second identifier.

10. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the metadata from the other location occurs automatically and without further user interaction.

11. (currently amended)   A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a discovery document stored in the data structure, wherein:
the discovery document comprises including metadata about a resource stored at a first location identified by a first identifier, and at least one typed link indicating the existence of further metadata about the resource; and
the data structure is discovery document being stored at a second location identified by a second identifier, the discovery document further including at least one typed link indicating the existence of further metadata about the resource.

12. (original)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates the existence of a second discovery document and a location of the second discovery document.

13. (original)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to a Web-based service.

14. (original)   The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein another typed link indicates a link to a description of the Web-based service.

15. (original)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to an XML schema.

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16. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the identifier comprises a Universal Resource Identifier.

17. (currently amended)   A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a response document stored in the data structure, wherein:
    the response document is issued in response to a request for a resource,
    the response document includes including an indication that a document exists, and
    the indication includes including metadata about the resource.

18. (currently amended)   The computer-readable medium of claim 17 18, wherein the response document is an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

19. (currently amended)   The computer-readable medium of claim 17 18, wherein the response document is an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

20. (original) A system for communicating data over a network, the system comprising:
    a server computer including a resource;
    a client computer configured to issue a request for the resource and to receive information in response to the request; and
    a response document based on the resource, generated by the server, and including an indication of the existence of a discovery document, the discovery document including metadata about the resource,
    wherein the client computer receives the response document including the indication of the discovery document.

21. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication of the existence of the discovery document comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

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22. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an
HTML document and the indication of the existence of the discovery document comprises a
LINK tag.